THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No tests in respect of quality of bearings are done at the time of import.

(c) and (d) Ball and Roller Bearing are chargeable to varying rates of basic customs duty ranging from Rs. 25 per bearing to 110% ad valorem in terms of Notification No. 70/89-Cus. dated 01-03-1989 as amended. All Ball and Roller Bearings are exempted from auxiliary duty with effect from 30-4-1992. Raw materials for the manufacture of bearings attract duty at varying rates not exceeding 110% depending on the classification under the Customs Tariff. The rate of countervailing duty is 23% *ad valorem* on imported bearings. The bearings manufactured indigenously are also leviable to excise duty @ 23% ad valorem.

In the wake of reports of large scale under-invoicing of imports of ball and roller bearings after the Budget 1992-93, the Government has prescribed specific rates or specific-cum *ad valorem* rates for majority if ball and roller bearings with effect from 30-04-1992.

Indo-Singapore Trade Corridors

679. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to set up Indo-Singapore Trade Corridors in India was discussed ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what are the details of areas under consideration for the said proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) A proposal to set up an Indo-Singopore Industrial Corridor has been discussed with the Government of Singapore. The proposal is aimed at attracting investment by Singapore companies in joint ventures in selected sectors and the development and upgradation of infrastructure facilities. Individual Singapore companies would take a decision for investment in such a corridor on commercial considerations.

The Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Tamilnadu and the Union Territory of Pondicherry have offered facilities for locating such a corridor. This has been conveyed to the Singaporean authorities.

Issue of Import and Export licences

680. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of Import and Export licences issued after the liberalisation of Economy ;

(b) what is the number of companies in India which are making export worth over Rs. 14 crores per year ; and

(c) what are the names of such Export houses together with the value of export thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The number of Import and Export Licences issued from July, 1991 to March 1992, excluding Exim Scrips, is 48,440 and 563 respectively.

(b) The data relating to the companies which are making exports is not maintained.

(c) The names of Members Exporters of Federation of Indian Export Organisation and their export value for the year, 1990-91 and 1991-92 is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLXII, Annexure No. 10].

जी० आई० पाइपों के लिए दर संविदा

681. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी :** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री 10 दिसम्बर, 1991 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 1754 के